

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated December 19, 2003, claims 1-20 and 22 were pending in this application. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-20. Applicants also acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claim 22 includes allowable subject matter. Claim 7 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 22, and consequently, claim 22 has been cancelled. Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation based upon Derezinski

Claim 7 has been amended to include the limitations previously presented in allowable claim 22. Applicants therefore, submit that claim 7 is allowable over the applied prior art.

Applicants have made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. However, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. Accordingly, and in view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants hereby respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Paul", written over the firm name.

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